

# RATT PUBLICATIONS

Proudly presents from our files

## **VIEW FROM THE MAST SERIES**

Personal artifacts from our author

### **PLANTING THE SEEDS OF GRATITUDE**

By

*Floyd Thomas Pratt, F.H.C., M.A.G.I.*

© 2015

Part of our experiences while on the Earth is dealing with hardships, conflict, trials and tribulations. These troublesome events are sometimes brought on by our own actions and choices. Other conflicts are a result of unrighteous choices our family, friends and neighbors thrust upon us.

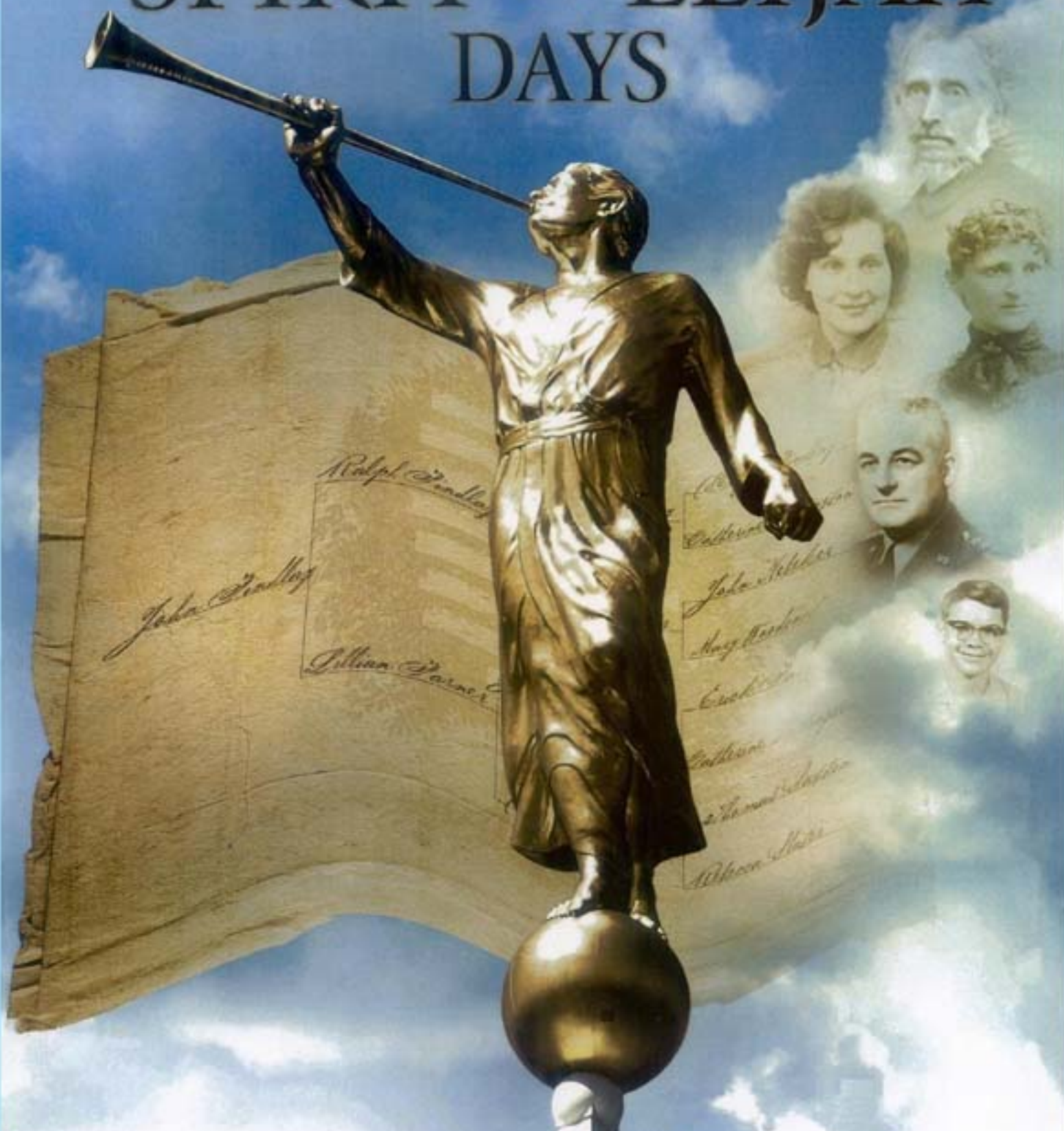
In any case we all have to deal with conflict and troubles.

It is hard to be grateful when your world is crashing down around your ears and it appears these trials are beyond your capability. This article explains some of the solutions one can utilize to overcome some of these trials and tribulations.

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in any retrieval system or transmitted in any form or by any means including by any individual, institution, corporation including libraries and the internet without written permission.



# SPIRIT OF ELIJAH DAYS



**"BEHOLD, I WILL SEND YOU ELIJAH THE PROPHET BEFORE THE COMING OF THE GREAT AND DREADFUL DAY OF THE LORD: AND HE SHALL TURN THE HEART OF THE FATHERS TO THE CHILDREN, AND THE HEART OF THE CHILDREN TO THEIR FATHERS, LEST I COME AND SMITE THE EARTH WITH A CURSE. MALACHI 4:5-6**

# **PLANTING THE SEEDS OF GRATITUDE**

*By Floyd Thomas Pratt F.H.C., M.A.G.I. 2015*

Good Morning Brothers and Sisters, my name is Bro. Pratt and I have been asked to give a talk this Sacrament Meeting of the 26<sup>th</sup> of April 2015 based on the talk of President Uchtdorf of April conference 2014 titled **"Grateful in Any Circumstances"**.

The title of my talk is **"Planting the Seeds of Gratitude"**.

Part of our experiences while on the Earth is dealing with hardships, conflict, trials and tribulations. These troublesome events are sometimes brought on by our own actions and choices. Other conflicts are a result of unrighteous choices our family, friends and neighbors thrust upon us. In any case we all have to deal with conflict and troubles.

It is hard to be grateful when your world is crashing down around your ears and it appears these trials are beyond your capability. Some of these trials can be due to the following...

- [1] Dissolution of a marriage or relationship
- [2] Death of a family member or friend
- [3] A lack of sufficient financial means to meet your needs
- [4] Estrangement from a family member
- [5] A lack of marriage or an inability to bear children
- [6] Failing health issues

And the most serious of all...

- [7] Losing your commitment to the Plan of Salvation and struggling with faith issues

All of these trials are very serious and require your immediate attention in order to steady your ship in a world of stormy waters.

I cannot remember any time in my life, where one troublesome event after another came at me and taxed my efforts and resolve as this time we now live in. The Savior has said he has kept his greatest spirits in reserve for these last days as has Lucifer kept his worst spirits to torment and aggravate the saints in these perilous times.

But cheer up, you have made the right choices...that's why you are here and Father has further knowledge, education and training for you and going through these trials and troubled times is all part of this training.

Remember, these are starter bodies and how we control our appetites, desires, thoughts, speech and actions will determine if we get an "upgrade" after this life.

# **PLANTING THE SEEDS OF GRATITUDE**

*By Floyd Thomas Pratt F.H.C., M.A.G.I. 2015*

Father has placed our spirit in these bodies to control the flesh and not to be controlled by the desires, appetites and passions of the flesh.

Let's see how we can overcome the speed bumps of life, which slow us down, from our spiritual progression.

## **DISSOLUTION OF A MARRIAGE OR RELATIONSHIP**

Sometimes the relationship between a man and a woman becomes corrupted. This corruption interferes with their goals, dreams and eternal happiness.

Conflict raises it's ugly head and instead of kind, loving and thoughtful words, are replaced with hurtful, anger, hostility and fear enters into what was once a happy relationship.

When I have observed these problems the first thing I ask these troubled couples...when was the last time they read the scriptures together? My next question is...when was the last time you had family prayer together?

I have found the first causality to a loving relationship is when they cut off their communication to our Heavenly Father. Our Heavenly Father is the very fountain of love, knowledge and truth, which can be tuned off by anger, jealousy and self-serving interests.

We are not programmed for failure, Heavenly Father and all the angels are rooting for us to succeed and he knows these speed bumps in life, if handled properly, will eventually get you and your spouse to your goals of eternal life and companionship with family, friends and most important our Heavenly parents.

Consequently, when you have conflict in your relationship with spouse, children and/or parents, be mindful and grateful you have help across the veil and working with his guidance, assistance and council from his servants in this very church, you can overcome these hard feelings and through repentance you can again find the happiness you once shared in your relationship.

Another stressful and hurtful problem we have to deal with is the passing of a family member or friend.

## **DEATH OF A FAMILY MEMBER OR FRIEND**

Even though we know death is part of our spiritual progression and a necessary part of the Plan of Salvation, we still have a hard time with the loss of fellowship we once shared with our loved ones.

As Latter Day Saints we share covenants and promises, which no other religion, institution or entity on this earth has. We know what the next life holds for our loved ones.

Mourning for the loss of a loved one is natural. We should be grateful they no longer suffer with pain and we should be thankful to our Heavenly Father for helping them continue their eternal progression.

# **PLANTING THE SEEDS OF GRATITUDE**

*By Floyd Thomas Pratt F.H.C., M.A.G.I. 2015*

As Latter Day Saints, we know we will see them again and we are comforted and happy they have fought the good fight and we will be joining them soon.

I council my wife and children do not mourn for me, but be more concerned for your spiritual well being and hold fast to the iron rod...I will be waiting for you.

Bonnie and I became members of this church in December 1975 and began family history research immediately. One of the first people we sent paperwork to have temple work performed was for Bonnie's father Robert Louis Bach, who died in 1970.

In 1983, we lived on a farm outside of Marshfield, Missouri and Bonnie's sister; Melanie, who is not a member, came to visit. Melanie had had night terrors in the mid 1970's concerning her father and sought therapy to resolve those issues. Her therapist recommended she keep a dream journal upon awakening from a nightmare.

As she shared those nightmares with us in Marshfield, she told us of the last dream she had concerning her father. She said she saw him in a pale robe holding a file folder on his arm. He was arising, as if on an escalator. He turned to her and said, "I won't be seeing you for a time, I'm going on."

Bonnie and I asked her when this dream took place and she said it was written down in her journal and she would find it and call us when she returned home to California.

When she called, she informed us this dream took place in the spring of 1977. We checked Bob's temple work and found all his ordinances had been completed in the spring of 1977.

How grateful we are to our Heavenly Father for the Plan of Salvation and the knowledge families can be together forever.

Another speed bump in our journey through this life is a lack of sufficient financial means to meet our needs.

## **A LACK OF SUFFICIENT FINANCIAL MEANS TO MEET OUR NEEDS**

All of us at one time in our lives worry about money. There seems never to be enough of it or if we have plenty, we worry about losing it.

There are several avenues we can try to ease this troublesome worry.

The first and foremost act to easing financial worries is to pay your tithing and fast offerings. Nothing will open the coffers of heaven faster than a full tithe payer.

The next action would be to seek council from you Bishop. He will help you explore all avenues of resources such as, are you spending your money foolishly, are you buying unnecessary items such as electronics, support services, luxury items? Are you buying, new items when used items still work and are sufficient for your needs?

# **PLANTING THE SEEDS OF GRATITUDE**

*By Floyd Thomas Pratt F.H.C., M.A.G.I. 2015*

It is one of the Devil's missions to make you envy your neighbors and to become dissatisfied with your lot in life.

The shameful way advertisers are allowed to aim their commercials at adults and children, trying to entice you to spend your hard earned money on frivolous items is deplorable.

Another avenue is to council with your employer. If you have not received a wage increase in over a year, seeking an audience with your employer concerning this subject may be fruitful and productive.

Increase your education to become qualified for a higher wage vocation.

When you have done all you can do, and all else fails, and in your mind you seem to be at an impasse, taking your concerns and worries to your Heavenly Father will not only result in the desired effect, but will instill in you an attitude of gratitude for his love and assistance.

Another speed bump in our lives has to do with estrangement from a family member.

## **ESTRANGEMENT FROM A FAMILY MEMBER**

Misunderstandings, failure to communicate, lack of empathy, pride, indifference, lack of humility, and failure to repent are some of the causes for estrangements.

There is no right and wrong concerning any issue that may be causing a conflict in a relationship. Failure to compromise is always at the root of estrangements.

It angers me to see warring armies ask Heavenly Father to take sides in an issue concerning war. These governments, politicians, and generals all ask for Heavenly Father's blessing while they exercise violence, death and destruction some claiming it is his will.

Heavenly Father is on **HIS** side and does not take sides in conflicts. He defeats his enemies on his timetable, using his resources and resolves conflicts on his terms. He does not need his saints to go to war and shed blood, don't you remember the 185,00 Assyrians?

When we as Latter Day Saints have differences with our family members, there is no right and wrong but our duty is to find common ground and compromise to resolve our differences of opinions.

Where these estrangements continue, is where one or both parties will not yield to a common good for both sides of the issue.

Many of us have children and parents who are not active in the church and we are deeply concerned concerning their spiritual welfare. We may be angry concerning their decisions, lifestyle, choices, and occupations. This anger is unfounded and has its roots in unrighteousness.

Sometimes, we have blinders on and can only see what is in front of us and we fail to remember these spirits, our family members, are eternal and have to make their own choices and decisions.

# **PLANTING THE SEEDS OF GRATITUDE**

*By Floyd Thomas Pratt F.H.C., M.A.G.I. 2015*

We are commanded to give them their space and to allow them to make their own decisions, and when at some future time, maybe not in our lifetime, they decide to return to the fold, this is in accordance with the Plan of Salvation.

If you have done all you were commanded to do, when you raised your children, then you will be justified. Be patient, be loving, be supportive and be kind.

Think from an eternal aspect and you will find peace and if your relationship improves while in this life, then oh happy day and be grateful to your Heavenly Father. Do not underestimate the Plan of Salvation, as I did not think my father would be interested in any religion, his actions in the Temple proved otherwise.

Another concern some have to deal with is a lack of marriage or an inability to bear children.

## **A LACK OF MARRIAGE OR AN INABILITY TO BEAR CHILDREN**

Many of our single men and woman are deeply concerned about finding a mate while they tarry on this earth. Especially, if they are aware of the Plan of Salvation and the concept of eternal marriage.

Many feel if they do not get married, they will be left out or not find happiness. This is a fallacy and is incorrect and needs to be addressed.

The Lord loves us so much, he would rather you spend your days on earth in service to your brethren than to be married in a wrong or improper relationship. More damage has been done to spouses and children due to broken homes than any other calamity.

Those worthy brothers and sisters need not feel anxiety or apprehension because they have not found their eternal helpmate. If you do not find your eternal partner in this life, you will have a 1000 years during the Millennium to find your spouse.

Remember, temples will be operating 24/7 during that time and all those who never received the blessings of the Plan of Salvation will have an opportunity to fulfill their dreams.

Those sisters who have not bore children in this life will have the opportunity to bear children and those who have lost children in this life will have the opportunity to raise those children to full stature during the Millennium. No one is lost, all receives the Plan of Salvation and all decides his or her destiny.

Another stumbling block in the road of life is failing health issues.

## **FAILING HEALTH ISSUES**

Some of us are preoccupied with our failing health or the failing health of a loved one. Some of these health issues are life threatening and some are a minor nuisance.



## **PLANTING THE SEEDS OF GRATITUDE**

*By Floyd Thomas Pratt F.H.C., M.A.G.I. 2015*

Sometimes these illnesses consume all our efforts, energies, money and time trying to combat their influences in our lives and the lives of our loved ones.

Some of these illnesses result in depression, inactivity, loneliness and self-pity. In my opinion this type of problem is the hardest to overcome.

If your illness does not bed-ridden you, then I have found a cure to the above problem.

When I was a young man in my early twenties selling insurance, I would often go to nursing homes and collect insurance premiums from older people.

As I walked in this one nursing home, I was overwhelmed by the sadness and loneliness of these elderly men and women and found when I visited them they were so glad to see me, they wanted to talk about their lives and families and the more time I spent with them the happier they seemed to be.

It broke my heart to see one lady in a wheel chair outside her room and as I walked by I smiled at her and stopped for a few words. I asked her how she was doing and she looked at me and eagerly replied in a shaky voice, "Are you my son?"

I immediately became sad because, no, I was not her son and how her eyes wanted me to be her son and I realized I could do tremendous good by just visiting these "lost" souls and offering a few kind words. This was a lesson I retained all my life and when I feel lost or wallow in self-pity, I find great pleasure in going to a nursing home or a hospital and just visiting those in need and offering a few words of kindness.

I guess that's why I enjoy home teaching, I get to spread a few seeds of gratitude to others knowing all goodness I emulate, is but a reflection of my Heavenly Father.

When unhappy, sad or feeling ill, call one of your sisters or a brother in the church and ask them to go with you to visit the elderly, sick or infirmed especially your own family members and all of you will be thankful and grateful for these visits.

As the Savior said in Mosiah 2-17 "And behold, I tell you these things that ye may learn wisdom; that ye may learn that when ye are in the service of your fellow beings ye are only in the service of your God."

The last and most serious of the speed bumps of life is losing your commitment to the Plan of Salvation and struggling with faith issues.

### **LOSING THEIR COMMITMENT TO THE PLAN OF SALVATION AND STRUGGLING WITH FAITH ISSUES**

When doubt creeps in concerning your commitment to the Plan of Salvation and the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, this is a cancer that will grow and eventually consume your soul if not addressed immediately.



# **PLANTING THE SEEDS OF GRATITUDE**

*By Floyd Thomas Pratt F.H.C., M.A.G.I. 2015*

First of all, all of us are not immune to this doubt and the world will do its best to encourage your departure offering you ALL of the worldly pleasures you can handle. The world cares not for your well-being and gladly will escort your soul to Lucifer's domain.

To combat this spiritual decline one must first realize **YOU** once had a testimony of the Savior, this church, the Plan of Salvation and you have witnessed miracles, and blessings...what happened?

Sometimes this condition in fact, mostly all the times these things happen with small steps in the wrong direction. Failure to observe, church attendance, failure to pay tithing, failure to attend the temple, failure to read the scriptures and failure to keep communication open through prayer to our Heavenly Father are small steps.

All of these are small steps lead to big consequences. When any of these signs begin to manifest themselves think of the following recovery actions so healing can take place.

[1] First, visit with the Bishop and heed his advice and council.

[2] Second, the Bishop will open up a link with our Heavenly Father and promote and invoke through faith...healing blessings on your behalf.

[3] Third, read the Old and New Testament, the Book of Mormon, The Pearl of Great Price and the Doctrine of Covenants. As you read those standard works, buy copies of the Institute books covering each of those subjects and read the scriptures using the institute books as a companion.

You will have a new understanding of the scriptures and your knowledge of the Plan of Salvation will be magnified. Your testimony will grow and you will not be able to contain what you have learned and you will want to share with others your newly found love and respect coupled with gratitude for your Heavenly Father.

After you have accomplished the above then, read the History of the Church in all its volumes. Read Joseph Smith's Discourses, and the Journals of Brigham Young and any other books of good report. These books will acquaint you with the sacrifices the early saints had to endure and knowing their sacrifices will instill a sense of gratitude to your Heavenly Father and you will come to an understanding...you don't have it so bad after all.

You might think it is easy for me to say these things to you but, I'll let you in on a secret, I have done all these things except I didn't have the \$200 plus for the set of Brigham Young's journals, I could only read a few of them. When raising six children, \$200 could buy many groceries.

## **IN CLOSING**

Brothers and sisters, when you are suffering from any of these "speed bumps" of life remember, Heavenly Father loves to show us how much he loves us by helping, healing, counseling, blessing and manifesting his spirit in what the world calls random acts of kindness, always with an eye focused on your deliverance and salvation.

## **PLANTING THE SEEDS OF GRATITUDE**

*By Floyd Thomas Pratt F.H.C., M.A.G.I. 2015*

When you emulate your Heavenly Father and his actions to your fellow man, you plant the seeds of gratitude in their hearts and they become equal benefactors of our Heavenly Father's love.

Regardless of how severe you feel you are suffering remember **2 Corinthians 4: 17-18** *"For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory; While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal."* In other words..."this too shall pass."

In closing my favorite scripture is taken from Doctrine and Covenants Section 121.

While Joseph Smith and his companions were imprisoned in Liberty Jail circa 1838, they suffered all manner of iniquities including poisoned meat. Prophet Joseph in verses 1 thru 6 pours out his soul to our Heavenly Father asking for regress and relief from this unbearable suffering and persecution.

In verses 7 & 8 the Lord replied, *"My son, peace be unto thy soul; thine adversity and thine afflictions shall be but a small moment; 8 And then, if thou endure it well, God shall exalt thee on high; thou shalt triumph over all thy foes."*

Brothers and Sisters, we as benefactors to these trials and tribulations are in themselves a blessing and we should always be grateful...they are necessary to our spiritual growth and progression. Therefore, we need to be grateful in all things good and bad.

Heavenly Father loves **ALL** of his children, these things I have shared with you in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

*Floyd Thomas Pratt F.H.C., M.A.G.I.*  
26 April 2015

# A Little Something About Your Author.....

## *Floyd Thomas Pratt F.H.C., M.A.G.I.*



At the age of 19, Mr. Pratt embarked on a career in law enforcement. This experience gave him training in detective and investigative skills. Little did Mr. Pratt know, how useful these skills would be in the field of genealogy.


Floyd started his family research career in 1975 after becoming a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. His first calling as a new member was to serve in the newly created genealogical department or known today as the Family History Center in the Springfield, Missouri ward. This two-year calling gave Mr. Pratt a tremendous amount of experience helping others to research their families.

In fact, he felt family research came easy and required little effort on his part. In reality, years of reading and studying increased his expertise and he made it look easy to others. Over the course of several years, Mr. Pratt was asked by his church to instruct several family history courses. This experience established a deep profound love for family and ancestors. It was not uncommon for Mr. Pratt to spend 4 to 8 hours a day researching and compiling family histories in addition to his duties, as an entrepreneur in the insurance business.

The first major achievement for Mr. Pratt was a breakthrough on his Pratt family back to the early 1800's. Due to confusion with Pratt ancestors and not satisfied with just the direct line research, Mr. Pratt branched out to research all connected lines and allied families.

This dedication led to 50,000 individuals in his database and has achieved expert status for Mr. Pratt on the families of middle and eastern Missouri, eastern and western Tennessee and central North Carolina.

Concerning Mr. Pratt's style of research, he is a strong supporter of the "hands on" approach. When he took family vacations, they usually went to libraries, cemeteries, courthouses, National Archive centers, and visited family members in various states. He attended family reunions and obtained his material from the actual sources when possible.

Being a researcher of the highest degree, in 1991, Mr. Pratt created  **Pratt Publications**.

He began to offer to the public, a series of books titled, Pratt Progenitor Papers. This series of volumes are a collection of legal documents, stories, pictures and historical presentations concerning the families of Missouri, Tennessee and North Carolina.

The first three Volumes were released to the public in 1991 and were issued to 18 different libraries including the Library of Congress and the St. Louis Public Library. The next 11 volumes were sent to the Salt Lake Genealogical Library with 60 volumes scheduled for publication.

In 1996, Mr. Pratt created the  **Genealogical Institute** to further the education of serious researchers.



# A Little Something About Your Author.....

The **Genealogical Institute** offers a series of educational materials to teach and instruct the novice as well as advanced researchers, procedures Mr. Pratt has tried and tested to be of great value in family history research. These courses offer “a hands on” curriculum designed to instruct in investigative, deductive reasoning and logical techniques for tracking your family history. Many have found a treasure chest of knowledge when undertaking these courses.

Mr. Pratt has taken the hobby of genealogy and has enhanced it into a science. Heavy on instructions concerning documentation, research procedures, alternative sources and common public records, these courses are valuable tools for the family history researcher. Mr. Pratt has been informed by researchers his material found in his publications are recorded as source validation for such organizations as the Sons of the American Revolution (SAR) and the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR).

Upon completion of the educational courses from the **Genealogical Institute**, the graduate is awarded the *Master Accreditation* of the *Genealogical Institute*. (*M.A.G.I.*) Written in easy to read format with detailed explanations concerning various subjects of interest to family history researchers.

Mr. Pratt's ability in family history research has amazed many experienced researchers. When Mr. Pratt is asked for help concerning their “brick wall” in their family research, his quick wit and logical mind rapid fires instructions and procedures so fast they cannot write the material quickly enough. Little do they realize, this knowledge has been acquired over 40 years of research.

In June of 2000, Mr. Pratt undertook a new and unprecedented task. Outside of Washington, Saint John's Township, Franklin County, Missouri is an old cemetery called the Johnson-Caldwell Cemetery aka; misnamed the McAllister Cemetery. This cemetery has many pioneer heroes and ancestors of various descendants from that region. Some of the inhabitants were born in the 1750's and arrived in the Missouri Territory shortly after the 1803 Louisiana Purchase.

Mr. Pratt recorded all the information off of the headstones including every person in the cemetery and researched each individual related to Mr. Pratt or not. 1000 man-hours and two years later, he published the book “**JOHNSON-CALDWELL CEMETERY OF FRANKLIN COUNTY, MISSOURI**”©.

Obtaining newspapers, legal documents, talking to ancestors and researching various sources for any and all information concerning the history of the cemetery and the inhabitants produced this master text.

What makes this book unique is based on several factors. First, it is the only book to report on each inhabitant, their birth and activities throughout their life until their death, including their ancestors, spouses and children. Second, this book contains a unique index, listing the individual and their father's name if known. This is extremely helpful when several individuals have the same given name.

Upon examination, professional researchers have hailed this body of work as a masterpiece and a standard in which all future research should be based. No one has ever produced a body of work as unique and professional as this publication.

As the years moved on, Mr. Pratt became concerned about his 40 years of hard research work of various family histories. After a serious heart attack in 2012, Mr. Pratt decided to post his collective bodies of work on a website making them available to all interested researchers without compensation.

# A Little Something About Your Author.....

After careful consideration, Mr. Pratt chose the website [www.openlibrary.org](http://www.openlibrary.org). "Open Library" is a repository of millions of digital books available to the public for free.

There are two or more ways to access Mr. Pratt's publications.

If you open the website as listed above you click on the authors label on the left hand side and type Floyd Thomas Pratt F.H.C., M.A.G.I. The website will open to his name, click his name and you will be directed to a listing with his name, picture and listing of presently 62 publications (2015).

You can either scroll the list or an easier way to reach his lists is at the following website...

<https://openlibrary.org/people/floydpratt59/lists>

If you notice there are currently 9 lists or categories of books, article, stories and commentaries attributed to Mr. Pratt's publications.

These "Lists" are broken down as follows not necessarily in any order...

**Vital Text Series** This section covers public vital records. Including marriage records, deeds, census records, births, deaths, probate and indexes to public records. The counties of Missouri covered are as follows; Crawford, Washington, Franklin, Gasconade, St. François, Ste. Genevieve, and Jefferson counties.

**Pratt Archive Collections** This Collections comprises of a series of books containing cemeteries, family histories, biographies and various books by individual authors. There are several sections with this group... **Cemeteries** contain documented census information for various cemeteries in Crawford, Washington and Franklin Counties of Missouri. **Family Histories** are a collection of historical books concerning a group of a family or family names.

**CRADLE TO GRAVE (C2G) PROFILE** The Cradle to Grave Profile (C2G) documents an individual's life from the cradle to the grave. All known research material concerning that individual is represented in a family group sheet format. These C2G profiles are presented to the researcher within a family group sheet detailing the husband, his spouses and all known children. Regardless of how many times the subject has been married, the researcher receives a full report on all known spouses and children for one low fee.

**The Pratt Chronicles...** The Pratt Chronicles series or what we call a Cradle to Grave (C2G) profile on steroids, is an in-depth comprehensive biography on one individual's life encompassing all known events, including historical factors from the time of their birth to their burial. These events are comprised of current music, inventions, movies, family births, deaths, marriages, legal documents, occupations, military participation, pictures, maps, mementos, world history, US history and economic conditions as they occurred on a yearly basis.

**LITERARY HISTORY SERIES** contains rare books concerning family history written by other authors...many who are deceased. These books were bought over the years and now enjoy the status of a rare find in the genealogical library.

**VIEW FROM THE MAST...** Over the years, Mr. Pratt has found it necessary to write articles concerning observations concerning various family history topics or what we call personal artifacts. These reports, articles and short stories are contained in this section labeled...View From the Mast.

# A Little Something About Your Author.....

Having a unique perspective from the top of mast on the sailing ship of discovery, Mr. Pratt has sailed through the waters of family history research for the last 40 years. These articles were designed to bring to the attention of family historians some unusual details he has witnessed during his research tenure.

**Genealogical Institute** M.A.G.I. Courses These courses were developed over the years to assist the novice as well as the professional in all manners pertaining to family history research. Written in easy to read format with detailed explanations concerning various subjects of interest to family history researchers.

**Pratt Progenitor Papers Series** This series is comprised of the famous Pratt Progenitor Papers. Starting with a known ancestor, this collection covers 2 or more generations of descendants. Each volume follows a particular individual and his descendants including children, grandchildren and spouses if known. Each of these volumes include legal and detailed information about a particular ancestor...many contain Cradle to Grave (C2G) Profiles. The order of reporting is as follows: 1<sup>st</sup> a Descendancy report on the primary, which is usually the husband; 2<sup>nd</sup> the primary or husband followed by all known wives, then 3<sup>rd</sup> the second generation comprising of all known children and their spouses, followed by additional subsequent generations of descendants. The **PPP** are light on speculation and assumptions, heavy on factual documentation offering research insights and suggestions.

**ANCESTRAL FAMILY HISTORY OF...** This book showcases a selected individual usually a living descendant, detailing their direct line ancestors as far as the research has been completed. This type of format is known as an enhanced pedigree chart. These books contain as many as 10 to 70 generations limited only by the number of ancestors of our primary individual. Whereas, pedigree charts list only the vitals on an individual, these books generate all known notes, articles, legal documents and if applicable, Cradle to Grave (C2G) Profiles on each and every direct line ancestor and their spouses.

When accessing Mr. Pratt's books on Open Library, click on the heading of each list and you will be directed to the books, articles, stories and commentaries contained in each section. Click on the title of the book or article you desire for a full explanation of the item with contents. On the upper right hand column, are the words "Read Online" and PDF. All of these publications have been uploaded to the Internet Archive Digital Library repository and you can access them directly at the following...  
<https://archive.org/>

If you wish to read online, click the read online link, the book will open and if you wish to download this item click the PDF link in the box on right. We suggest you download, giving you the opportunity to read and study the books, articles, stories and commentaries at your leisure.

We, in the genealogical world are deeply grateful to be associates of a man of Mr. Pratt's caliber. Through his research and dedication, future generations will benefit by his advances in the genealogical research field.

In addition we are thankful for the inspiration that sparks men like Mr. Pratt to magnify their love for people and history. We feel, with a lifetime dedicated to the genealogical pursuit of truth and knowledge, Mr. Pratt's accumulative body of work, will stand as a quintessential manifestation of this divine love.

Lewton Cole, Chairman  
**Genealogical Institute**



# Floyd Thomas "Tom" Pratt F. H. C., M. A. G. I. Pedigree Chart

## 1 page of 43 pages Pedigree

Page 1

Chart no. 1

